

What is claimed is:

1. A post driving apparatus comprising:

a. a chassis having a longitudinal axis;

b. a frame carried by said chassis, said frame including
5 an upper support member having an axis of elongation
substantially perpendicular to said longitudinal axis of
said chassis;

c. a post magazine indexingly supported by said frame;
and,

d. a post driving assembly suspended from a portion of
10 said upper support member for reversible travel
therealong so as to laterally position said post driving
assembly from said chassis, said post driving assembly
including a post driver adapted to retain a post supplied
15 from said post magazine.

2. The post driving apparatus of claim 1 wherein a post
retained by said post driver is continuously driven during
driven placement.

20 3. The post driving apparatus of claim 2 wherein the apparatus
is self propelled.

4. The post driving apparatus of claim 2 wherein the apparatus

is adapted to be towed behind a vehicle.

5 5. The post driving apparatus of claim 1 wherein a portion of said chassis is displaced about a driving pivot so as to shift weight from said chassis to said driving assembly to thereby complete driven placement of a post retained by said post driver.

10 6. The post driving apparatus of claim 5 wherein said post driver is initially driven by a hydraulic ram and subsequently driven by the displaced mass of said apparatus.

15 7. The post driving apparatus of claim 6 wherein said driving pivot is parallel with said longitudinal axis of said chassis.

8. The post driving apparatus of claim 6 wherein said frame is pivotably carried by said chassis.

20 9. The post driving apparatus of claim 8 wherein said frame is hydraulically pivoted about said longitudinal axis of said chassis so as to change the angular relationship between said post driving assembly and the ground surface.

10. The post driving apparatus of claim 9 wherein said

apparatus further comprises means for transferring a post from said post magazine to said post driver for subsequent driven placement.

5 11. The post driving apparatus of claim 10 wherein said means is supported by said frame.

12. The post driving apparatus of claim 10 wherein said means is supported by said post driving assembly.

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13. The post driving apparatus of claim 10 wherein said post driver has a home position, said home position defining a post transferring station for said apparatus.

15 14. The post driving apparatus of claim 13 wherein said post driver further has at least one away-from-home position, said at least one away-from-home position being the desired post location for post placement.

20 15. The post driving apparatus of claim 14 wherein said at least one away-from-home position is defined by laser detection of a laser emitted to delimit at least a portion of a preselected fence line.

16. The post driving apparatus of claim 15 wherein said apparatus further includes at least one fence dispenser, said at least one fence dispenser being positioned on said frame.

5 17. A post driving apparatus comprising a chassis having a longitudinal axis and a frame mounted thereto, a supply of posts carried by said frame for individually supplying posts to a post driver, said post driver being reversibly positionable with respect to said longitudinal axis of said
10 chassis so as to laterally position a post from said chassis for driven placement, said chassis being displaceable by said post driver during post driving such that at least a substantial portion of the mass of said apparatus is borne by a post being driven thereby.

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18. The post driving apparatus of claim 17 wherein said driven placement is continuous.

19. The post driving apparatus of claim 18 wherein said frame
20 is tiltable relative to said chassis to vertically align said post driver relative to a variable topography.

20. In a method of continuously driving posts using a post driving apparatus having a chassis and a post driving assembly

support frame, the steps comprising;

a. hydraulically driving a post for placement in the ground; and

5 b. subsequently bearing upon said post a substantial portion of the mass of said apparatus to finally drive said post.